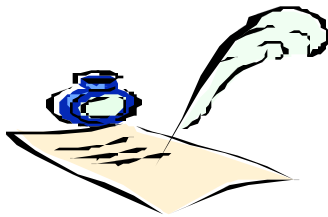


**KASRA**

**Jan. 2007**

Email: [news@e-kasra.com](mailto:news@e-kasra.com)



## Retiree News

### Dear Fellow Retiree:

At a recent retirees' luncheon, someone said to me that they were confused by all the Kaiser acronyms and asked me if I would please define them. I did so, but thought that many other people might also be confused. So let me repeat my simple, abbreviated explanation.

As you know an acronym is merely a word formed from the initial letters or parts of a compound term. We all know **KACC** (Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation). KACC is being wound down in connection with Kaiser's reorganization. From now on, you are more likely to see a reference to **KAC** (Kaiser Aluminum Corporation).

If you are receiving this newsletter, you are probably a member of **KASRA** (Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association). KASRA was formed in 1988 to deal with the threatened retirement benefit package. It is a non-profit unincorporated association, with a membership of slightly less than 3000 members. The current purpose of KASRA is to assist the VEBA, to make sure that everyone who is eligible to receive VEBA disbursements knows of their availability and takes advantage of them, to monitor the COBRA rates charged by KAC, and to provide a continuing communications link between KASRA members.

Some Kaiser Aluminum retirees elected to receive continuing health care benefits from KAC as required under **COBRA** (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985). COBRA is a federally mandated program that requires an employer to offer certain former employees and their family members the right to elect health care continuation coverage at specified rates. Eligible retirees and their family members were given a one-time opportunity to elect COBRA coverage during Kaiser's reorganization proceedings under a special sec-

tion of the Act frequently referred to as **Bankruptcy COBRA**.

**EBDS** (Employee Benefit Data Services) is the administrator of KAC's employee health benefits programs. It replaced the KACC benefit group and is the contact point for COBRA health benefit questions. **All questions concerning COBRA benefits from Kaiser should be directed to:**

Employee Benefit Data Services (EBDS)  
Telephone: (877) 794-4446  
E-Mail: [kaccadmin@ebds.com](mailto:kaccadmin@ebds.com)

The **PBGC** (Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation) was created by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to encourage the continuation and maintenance of private-sector defined benefit pension plans, to provide timely and uninterrupted payment of pension benefits, and to keep pension insurance premiums at a minimum. Defined benefit pension plans promise to pay a specified monthly benefit at retirement, commonly based on salary and years on the job. The PBGC took over a majority of Kaiser's pension plans during its reorganization proceedings. As those receiving pension benefits from the PBGC know, there are limits on the pension benefits that the PBGC may pay under the pension plans it assumes.

You no doubt heard of the **Retirees' Committee**, sometimes called the **1114 Committee**, during Kaiser's reorganization proceedings. This committee was appointed by the Bankruptcy Court to represent the interests of salaried retirees during those proceedings and was dissolved when Kaiser emerged from bankruptcy. The committee entered into a settlement agreement with KAC approved by the Bankruptcy Court. The settlement agreement provides for, among other things, the formation of a voluntary employees' beneficiary association or **VEBA** (Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA).  
continued on back page

## What's Going On

Thank you to our faithful readers. The editor is still culling through notes some of you sent this past summer.



Love blossoms. Congratulations to Oakland retiree **Ron McHaney** of Portland, OR, who married Mary Jean Harmon last July. The McHaney's honeymooned on the Oregon coast. Moss Landing Refractories retiree **Bob Stephens** (Portland, OR) married a

woman he dated in college some 60 years ago. They honeymooned in Australia, New Zealand, and enjoyed a week in Baja, CA. Gramercy retiree **Will Roussel** of Baton Rouge, LA, remarried in early February. He met his bride, Margaret, at the retirement community where they reside. Since then, the Roussels have traveled to Denali, Alaska, the North Georgia Mountains & the Carolinas. Speaking of travel, Union City can plant retiree **Jim Caldwell** of San Antonio, TX, has traveled to France, Italy, Florida, California & Ireland. Jim delivers for Meals on Wheels and conducts Bible study fellowship for his church's homeless mission outreach.

Mead retiree **A. Mark Via** (Dulles, VA) works for the U.S. State Dept as a general services officer, currently stationed in Paramaribo, Suriname. His last post was in San Salvador, El Salvador. Mead retiree **Anna Louise Slusser** (Newport, WA) is a bowler who competed at the national womens tournament in Reno last spring and received the no. 22 payout at the womens state tournament in May. She had a huge family reunion attended by 100 during the Fourth of July weekend. Columbus, OH retiree **Bill de Bruler** is a hotel consultant. He traveled to Destin, FL and took a Western Caribbean cruise. Ravenswood retiree **John Paul Poling** of Ripley, WV, likes to write poetry & short stories and is active with the West Virginia Poetry and Historical Societies. He spends half the year in Florida, playing golf.

**Liz Hartman** of Tiburon, CA, must have a huge closet for her wardrobe. She's been a bridesmaid 14 times, and has attended four 50th Anniversary celebrations in Arizona, Arkansas, California, and Oregon. Trentwood retiree **Daniel Sowers** (Odessa, WA) likes fly fishing, horseback riding, riding his Harley and building model railroads. He spent part of last summer in Wyoming, guiding wilderness fly

fishing and back country pack trips with his stepson. Baton Rouge retiree **Sidney "Zeke" Breaux** of Plaquemine, LA, traveled to Arizona, visiting Phoenix, Sedona and the Grand Canyon, before crossing states to Las Vegas.

Tacoma retiree **Les Foster** (Puyallup, WA) finished building a new house last June on a hill overlooking the Orting Valley. Les enjoys restoring street rod cars, woodworking and cooking when he's not consulting for Alro Aluminum Co, in Romania. He's traveled to Croatia, Romania, Hungary, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Oakland retiree **Don LaRue** of Tahoe City, CA, lists his hobbies as mountaineering, oil painting and fiction author. Sounds like he's got all the bases covered - physical dexterity, creativity and mental stimulation. **Agnes E. Keper** (Munster, IN) follows the stock market

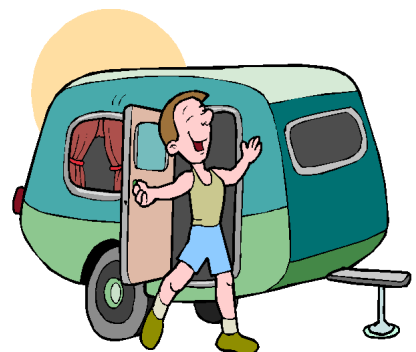


and enjoys reading the KASRA News. Mead retiree **John W. Koger** (Spokane, WA) took a trip to Gulf Shores, AL, last spring to visit fellow retiree **Robert Wells** and his wife, Carol. Oakland retiree **Robert J. Shader** of Walnut Creek, CA,

plays golf, travels and enjoys woodworking. He's active with the Seniors Club and Seniors In Retirement (SIRS).

Moss Landing retiree **Arza Dillard** of King City, AZ, attended a family reunion of more than 400 kin in Arkansas. Since then, Arza celebrated a 75th birthday, a 50th anniversary in late summer, and spent time canning vegetables and jams, which are probably coming in handy right about now. Savannah, GA retiree and resident **Edward F. Kenard** says he likes to work in the garden. Pass the samples, please. Ravenswood retiree **Russell S. Loar** of Parkersburg, WV, says he loves working as a demo person at Sam's

Club. **Bill Timmerman** of Papillon, NE, enjoys gardening, travel, & cooking. Belpre, OH, retiree **Henry Gally** of Elizabethtown, PA, likes to travel the country in a motorhome. He visited northern Maine last summer and is spending the



He visited northern Maine last summer and is spending the

winter in Florida.

**Bert Altmann** (Los Gatos, CA) has visited Croatia, the South Sea Islands, New Zealand and South America. He enjoys, dancing, gardening, photography and acrylic painting.

Y'all come & see us, heah! That's the message sent by **J.R. Shaw** of 6436 N Hampton Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30328-3120. Former Kaiser Jamaica Bauxite Co., manager **Dr. Edward J. Coyne** of Birmingham, AL, is a faculty advisor at Samford University, having retired from there as professor of international business. Belpre retiree **Reldon J. Barre** of Washington, WV, took a cruise to Alaska and visited New England. He sings in the church chorus. Newark,



OH retiree and resident **Charlie Williams** is president of the Newark Shuffleboard Club.

Cruisin...  
**Kirk**

**McVean** and his wife Nancy of Walnut Creek, CA, went on a summer cruise to Alaska. **Norval Prakash** of Danville, CA, plays golf, is self employed and still involved with the aluminum industry after almost 40 years. Permanente Foil retiree **Violet P. Johnson** enjoys living in a new senior community in Alameda, CA. CFT retiree **Tom Lowe** (Livermore, CA) volunteers at Kaiser Permanente Livermore Medical Facility and East Bay Regional Parks in between travel and golf. Grand Prairie, TX retiree **Claude Burroughs** (Granbury, TX) is playing golf and traveling with his new wife to London, Germany, Austria, Alaska, Colorado, Virginia and Florida.

As an industry consultant with cathode technology expertise, Mead retiree **Dick Jeltsch** of Spokane, WA, has traveled all over the world, running into dozens of Kaiser alums, from Missouri to Siberia. Dick took his 5th trip to Russia last month. And soon, a forest. Baton Rouge retiree and resident **Grover Dobbins** planted 28,000 loblolly pine seedlings on a tree farm in north Louisiana.

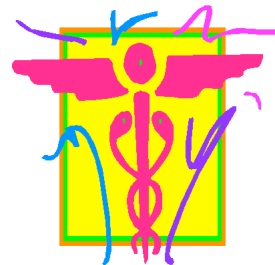


Mexico, MO Refractories retiree **Harold E. Smith** (Thompson, MO) is a cattleman who enjoys hunting, gun collecting and golf. Harold chairs the green & grounds committee at Centralia CC.



Condolences to: Tacoma retiree **Ellis Slattery** of Lacey, WA, whose wife, Patricia, passed away last June. Oakland retiree & resident **Helen A. Knight** lost her husband of 61 years. **Dean A. Goessley** of Huntington, IN, lost his wife of 57 years. **Jack Geitz** (Lincoln, CA) lost Beverly, his wife of 56 years, last September. Trentwood retiree **Art Haglund** (Spokane, WA) lost his wife Barbara in November. Our deepest sympathies.

Surviving spouse **Sherry Hellyer** still works as a hair stylist in Ravenswood, WV. Sherry enjoys Bluegrass music concerts and spent a week with her daughter and granddaughter in Myrtle Beach, SC. Valco retiree **Elizabeth Conley** of Stamford, CT, enjoys reading non fiction and has a collection of textile designs. She says her four children keep her happy. Ravenswood retiree **Mary Basham** (Charleston, WV) has volunteered more than 5,500 hours at the Charleston Area Medical Center Memorial Hospital. She also is the weekend manager at the Ronald McDonald House in Charleston. Sherman, TX retiree and resident **Philip J. Mischkot** says his motto is to take each day as it comes and do the best he can with it. Sounds like good advice for everyone.



Sullivan, IL retiree **L.F. Farison** (Louisville, KY) spends half days at work with his sons when it's not winter, where he can be found in Ft. Myers, FL. **Frank Ransom** of Pascagoula, MS, enjoys building a 1/2" steam locomotive model, as well as doll house and furniture making. Frank writes that a year later, he's still recovering from Hurricane Katrina. Speaking of which, CFT retiree **Ron Rigge** (Pleasanton, CA) spent a week along with **Jess Erickson** (Alamo, CA) working with a church group doing Katrina repairs right in Pascagoula. Alpart, Jamaica retiree **Don Farrelly** of Prairieville, LA, visited Costa Rica and planned to visit Peru last month. He volunteers as a Eucharistic minister at the local hospital.

- cont. on insert page 5

## Dear Fellow Retirees (cont. from page 1)

The VEBA receives contributions from KAC as required under the settlement agreement in compensation for the elimination of salaried retiree medical and life insurance benefits. The VEBA in turn established the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA Plan to provide welfare benefits for eligible retirees and their eligible spouses and dependents within the limits of the funds available to it. Three Trustees who are Kaiser Aluminum retirees oversee the VEBA. The VEBA Plan is administered by a third party administrator.

### All questions concerning the VEBA Plan or VEBA Plan benefits should be directed to:

Professional Insurance Consultants, Inc.

P.O. Box 4026

Concord, CA 94524

Telephone: (800) 339-3479 (*In California only*)

Telephone: (925) 798-2550 (*Outside of California*)

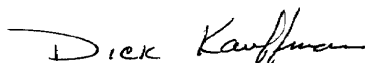
E-Mail: [vebaplan@proadministrators.com](mailto:vebaplan@proadministrators.com)

To add to the list, there are several Kaiser Aluminum salaried retiree "lunch bunches" that also use similar acronyms. Here in the San Francisco Bay Area, the lunch bunch is **KARLA** (Kaiser Aluminum Retirees Luncheon Association). This group sometimes gets confused with KASRA because of the similarity of the initials; however KARLA is a social organization for local Kaiser Aluminum retirees. In Louisiana there is a "lunch bunch" with the acronym of **KAOS** (Kaiser Aluminum Old-Timers Society). Contacts for the various "lunch bunches" can be found on the last page of this Newsletter.

If you still are having difficulty in determining where to get help with benefits information, you can call the KASRA office and leave a message and a KASRA representative will return the call and give assistance. The telephone number is (925) 685-1313 and email is [kasra@e-kasra.com](mailto:kasra@e-kasra.com)

Hopefully, this highly abbreviated explanation will begin to give you some insights as to these organizations and programs, if you were not familiar with them. By the time you receive this newsletter, the holidays will be over, but I hope that all of you had enjoyable times and can look forward to a good year in 2007.

Best regards,



Dick Kauffman  
President

## Mead Reunion Planned for March

Kaiser Mead employees annual reunion is scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2006. This includes all former Mead Employees, Salaried and Hourly. This year's function will be held at the Moose Lodge, 6363 North Lidgerwood, Spokane, WA. Starting time 1:00 PM. Pot luck dinner will be served, bring your favorite hot or cold dish to share with the crowd. Hope to see you all there. Contact Phil Marksbury at [pjmarksb@comcast.net](mailto:pjmarksb@comcast.net) or call hiim at (509) 325-1798.

## KASRA NEWS COLLECTING PHOTOS

KASRA News has asked our contacts with the various Kaiser retiree groups to send us pictures of their gatherings. The idea is to allow you to keep up with your fellow Kaiser employees. As we receive photos we will place them on a web photo data base. We will start slowly. Just click on email or copy and paste on your browser address line.

We would like to thank Kent Aggers of Pentad Systems for setting up the photo data base. If you have questions on how to access the website or upload photos, contact Kent at [aggers@pentadsys.com](mailto:aggers@pentadsys.com) or (509) 280-5185

For pictures from the SF Bay Area's KARLA Christmas luncheon link to:

<http://new.photos.yahoo.com/kasraphoto3> . For a

lone photo from Chalmette link to:

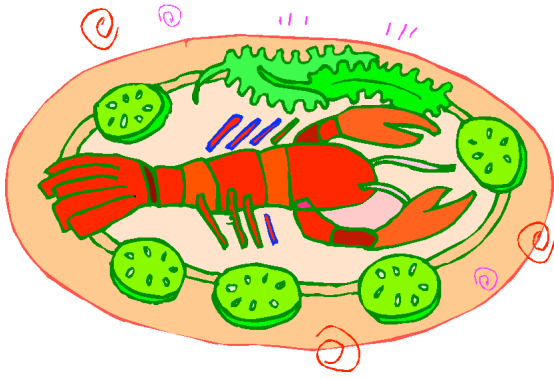
<http://new.photos.yahoo.com/kasraphoto1>

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### *In Memoriam*

John A. (Jack) Adams - Napa, CA  
William E. Armantrout - Jenison, MI  
Paul B. Bellan, Jr. - Baton Rouge, LA  
Thomas A. "Red" Campbell - Mead, WA  
Dan R. Cheyney - Walnut Creek, CA  
Thomas E. (Tom) Groce - Spokane Valley, WA  
Joseph F. Knight - Lake Oswego, OR  
Atlas J. (Lucky) Levet - LaPlace, LA  
Anne R. Merrick - Spokane Valley, WA  
Daniel Nickel - Piedmont, CA  
George H. Odom - Summerderdale, AL  
Merlin R. Romig - Kenner, LA

The **KASRA** Board of Directors expresses its deepest sympathy to families and loved ones.



## The Lunch Bunch

### Jan. 4 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email him at [bobeisenbach@cox.net](mailto:bobeisenbach@cox.net) (Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month)

### Jan. 11 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cathay Inn on North Division St. Contact Phil Marksbury at (509) 325-1798 or email him at [pjmarksb@comcast.net](mailto:pjmarksb@comcast.net). (Mead meets 2nd Thursday of each month)

### Jan 16 Newark

11 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet in Heath, Ohio. Contact Bob Abel (740) 323-2268 or email [rpabel@alltel.net](mailto:rpabel@alltel.net). (Newark meets 3rd Tuesday of every other month)

### Jan. 17 Erie

Lunch at 1:00 p.m., Lake Shore Country Club. Call Tim Healy at (814) 474-3536 fax (814) 474-2700 [thealy@velocity.net](mailto:thealy@velocity.net). (Erie meets 3rd Wednesday of each month)

### Jan 18 Trentwood

11:00 a.m. at Valley Eagles, 16810 E. Sprague, Veradale. Call Del McKinley (509) 924-3077 or email at [delmckin@aol.com](mailto:delmckin@aol.com), or Jan Gorman (509) 926-5476 or email at [jandon10@aol.com](mailto:jandon10@aol.com) (Trentwood meets 3rd Thursday of each month)

### Feb. 5 Los Angeles (So. CA)

Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 or email him at [normanger@cox.net](mailto:normanger@cox.net). (Meetings held the 1st Monday of each month)

### March 6 Chalmette

11:30 a.m. Doors open for Luncheon at Doug's restaurant (formerly Bealer's), Slidell, 348 Robert Blvd. (Restaurant 985-649-1805). All KASRA retirees and spouses invited. Call Sherman Faught at (985) 690-4942. Or email Chuck Schimmel at [schimcol@aol.com](mailto:schimcol@aol.com). Chuck's phone (985) 643-0437.

### April 21 Bay Minette, AL

All former Bay Minette employees, salaried and hourly, are invited to attend this meeting at the Fire Mountain Restaurant in Spanish Fort at 4 p.m. . For info contact Carl Holland at 251-937-9737; Freddie Hosey at 251-456-1267; or Betty Wilson at 251-610-5611, or email: [bsw1939@netzero.net](mailto:bsw1939@netzero.net)

### June 6 Tacoma

Noon, Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union. Contact Bob Mohr at (253) 820-6569 or [bobjanetmohr@comcast.net](mailto:bobjanetmohr@comcast.net). (Next Meeting Dec. 5, 2007)

### TBD Ravenswood

Dinner/Dance at the Green Hills Countryclub. RSVP. Call Dave Whitman at (304) 273-5548 or email him at [dwhitman@wirefire.com](mailto:dwhitman@wirefire.com)

### TBD Bay Area K.A.R.L.A.

11 a.m. Elks Club, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek. For information contact Carol Brown at [cbrown3799@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbrown3799@sbcglobal.net), Sharon Fraetis at [lafnatv@silcon.com](mailto:lafnatv@silcon.com) or call Al Matthews at (925) 930-8243.



## What's Going On (cont. from page 3)

Oakland retiree **Doug Mann** (Orinda, CA) spent two weeks in Maui early last year and revisited it last fall. He also took a trip to northern Europe. Chalmette retiree **Ray Lightell** (Kingwood, TX) visited friends and relatives in Chalmette, Mandeville, Picayune and Metairie, several months before Katrina. **Richard E. Tenney** of Bainbridge Island, WA, plays softball twice a week, pitching and having a great time. Mead retiree **Roger Olson** (Addy, WA) splits his time between Washington and Arizona, where he currently resides until April. Do visit at 441 Cibola Lane, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403.



Happy Anniversary. Halethorpe, MD retiree **William Zappie** (Balto, MD) and his wife celebrated 56 years of marriage in November. Marjorie and **Frank Clemens** (Spokane, WA) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2006. Omaha, NE retiree **Paul L. Vogt** and his wife (Casa Grande, AZ) celebrated their 60th anniversary last March. In August, Valco retiree **Robert W. Gambill** and his wife (Troy, MT) were married 60 years. Enid and **Carroll M. Adams, Jr.** of New Haven, WV, had their 55th anniversary in July. Mr. & Mrs. **Joseph D. Cadwallader** (Spokane, WA) had a 50th anniversary dinner with family and friends. Congratulations to all you love birds.



Happy Birthday. Happy 91st birthday to Trentwood retiree **Anne Merriek** (Spokane Valley, WA), who reached the milestone on the Fourth of July. Permanente re-

tiree **James D.'Don'Jenkins** of Lodi, CA, also reached 91 and says he is still hanging in there. Trentwood retiree **Jack Hopper** (Veradale, WA) 81 in July. Anglesey Aluminum retiree **Bill Kister** resides in Buckinghamshire, England. Each year he visits his kids in the U.S., then spends a holiday in France, where his stepdaughter and husband own &

operate the "Meanderer," a luxury hotel barge. Our prayers are with Chalmette retiree **Norwood McDonald** (Slidell, LA) and his wife who are now shut ins. His wife has diabetes and Alzheimers, while Norm's macular degeneration in both eyes render him legally blind. Last we heard, Trentwood retiree **Rae N. Heidenpech** had recovered from seizures and a brain tumor and was taking chemotherapy to beat the big C. Katrina update. Here are current addresses for those who were displaced by last year's hurricane. **Charles Cager, Sr.** now lives at 118 Bristol Bend Ln, Dickinson, TX, 77539. Chalmette retiree **Ralph Anderson** moved to 614 Locust St., Fort Collins, CO 80524-3404 and loves it there. **Anthony S. Gerace** has relocated to 154 Belington Ave., Madisonville, LA 70447, a subdivision where several Chalmette families have moved.

**Willodean "Deanie" Beier**, whose two homes were destroyed in St. Bernard Parish and New Orleans, is now living at 4156 Florida St., Zachary, LA 70791. Chalmette retiree **Sherman Faught** was able to move back home, after restoring 108 Ramage Loop, Slidell, LA 70458. Sherman hopes to get back to making soft shell crabs soon. Chalmatians may be interested in reading a white paper that **George Binczewski** of 239 Calle La Montana, Moraga, CA, 94556 authored in 2002 entitled: The Aluminum Industry and the Energy Crisis, Can we Learn from History? It describes the history of Kaiser Aluminum's Chalmette reduction plant. It is available at <http://www.tms.org/pub/journals/jom/0202/binczewski-0202.html>.

**Bill Carter** and his wife Cappi have built a new home on the family farm in Clare, MI. They keep busy mowing hay, ranching and traveling. After owning and operating a B&B in the Oregon wine country, **Kenneth Williams** and his wife have moved to Issaquah, WA, and will do some extensive traveling around the world for the next few years. Oakland retiree and resident **Mike Goldsmith** and his wife Dotty enjoyed a fabulous 4-month world cruise, during which they viewed the sun's full eclipse. Kaiser Chemicals retiree **Jim Falk** (Anacortes, WA) started the Anacortes Park Foundation, which grants \$200,000 per year to local projects.

### Send KASRA Your News

Write us your news, travels, stories, KASRA obituaries. Send a note to Mark Murray, Editor, KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or email [mamwmipr@aol.com](mailto:mamwmipr@aol.com). Telephone: 925-932-6050